

Delta Vision  
650 Capital Mall  
Sacramento, CA 95814

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2008 OCT -1 PM 3:15

September 22, 2008

To Whom It May Concern,

We are writing to protest the "Delta Blue Ribbon Task Force" endorsement of the Peripheral Canal and in the two proposals presented. In reading the map in question, there is no consideration shown for the residents of Roberts Island. They seem to be threatened from time to time, first with the sewer pond and then the chicken egg ranch.

Now it seems that two proposals were suggested, the first one being that 196 homes would be condemned and the owners relocated. That would create another "Yolo Bypass". How do you relocate Farmers who have a love for their land and with sweat and hard work, have held on to family farms through generations? The big problem is with the housing that was allowed to be built in a flood plain, Lathrop and surrounding areas. What happened to the regulations of the "100 Year Flood Plain"?

The second proposal was to build a ½ mile wide flood release buffer on the west bank of the San Joaquin river with 15 homes relocated. Homes in the path of the floodway would be condemned and the 7,040 acres involved would create a parkway. That is completely ridiculous. The levees used to have growth and trees on them and it was believed that the root system strengthened the levees. Now most of the growth has been removed and the trees either removed or damaged by the way they were trimmed. The small animals that once lived on the levees have disappeared because of the removal of vegetation. It is very upsetting to see what has happened in terms of progress.

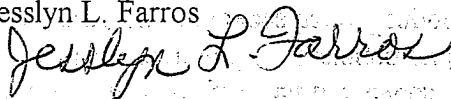
Joseph D. Condon bought his property in 1892 after retiring. He was an engineer for a river dredging and levee building co. and helped reclaim thousands of acres of Delta Land, now farmed and famous for heavy production. The Condon property has been in our family for over 100 years and we hope to keep it that way. It's unbelievable that to fix a problem created by developers, Roberts Island is again being threatened. The problem can be solved simply by dredging as was done in earlier years. The rivers are filled with debris and sludge and need cleaning. Leave the Delta to those who take pride in it.

We do not need the Peripheral Canal. It is too bad, that after being voted against, the Canal is being considered again. There is so much money wasted on different government agencies to make decisions that should be left to the land owners when it concerns their land and livelihood.

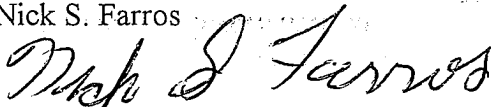
We are opposing the Peripheral Canal and the proposals. Leave Roberts Island alone.

Roberts Island Landowners

Jesslyn L. Farros



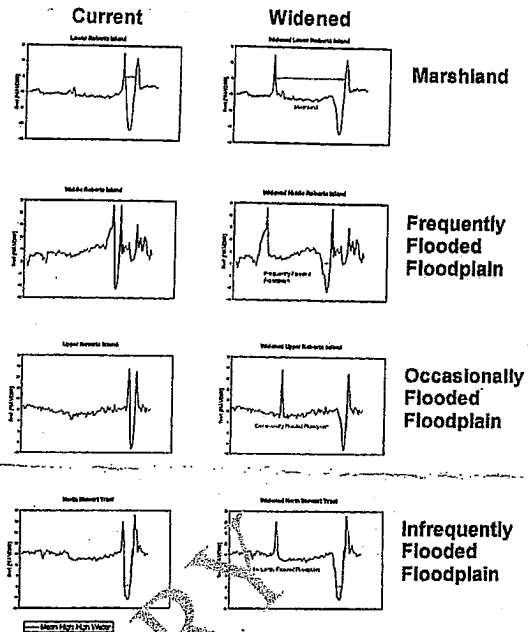
Nick S. Farros



## Setback Levee San Joaquin River



## Comparison of Current to Widened Cross-sections



### San Joaquin Setback Levee Building Block:

A setback levee will be built approximately one half mile inland of current levees along the San Joaquin River shoreline of both Stewart Tract and Roberts Island, creating a half-mile wide, 22-mile long floodplain. This will greatly increasing the capacity of this stretch of river during flood events, and provide substantial habitat and recreational benefits at all other times. The setback levee project will provide flood protection to developed and urban areas on the east bank, as well as to agricultural lands on both islands.

#### Objectives

- Protect lives and property in Lathrop, Mossdale, Stockton and adjacent communities from extreme flood events
- Protect agriculture and property on Stewart Tract and Roberts Island from flooding
- Restore critical marshland, floodplain, and riparian habitats along the San Joaquin River

#### Project Criteria:

- Project must provide substantially increased flood protection to east-bank communities
- Project should maximize environmental benefits

#### Benefits

- Eases strain on existing levees to reduce failure potential during flood events.
- Protects both east bank and west bank lands from flooding
- Provides substantial environmental benefits to fish and wildlife
- Provides increased recreational opportunities along San Joaquin River

#### Additional Consequences

- Approximately 7,040 acres of agricultural land will be removed from agricultural use.

<sup>1</sup>Data available at <http://waterdata.usgs.gov>

### San Joaquin Setback Levee Statistics:

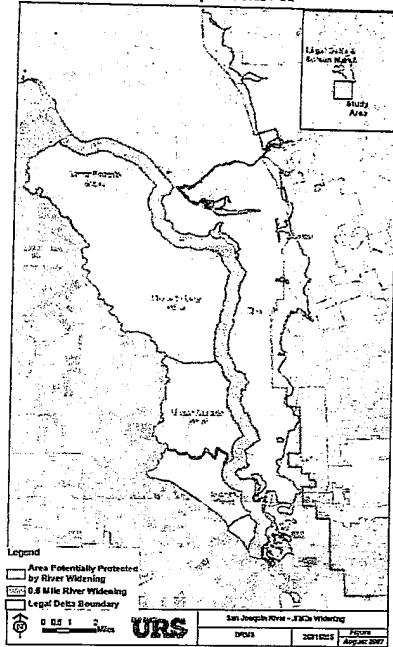
#### Flood Activity on the San Joaquin River:

San Joaquin River discharge data is available from 1923 through 2007<sup>1</sup>. During those 84 years:

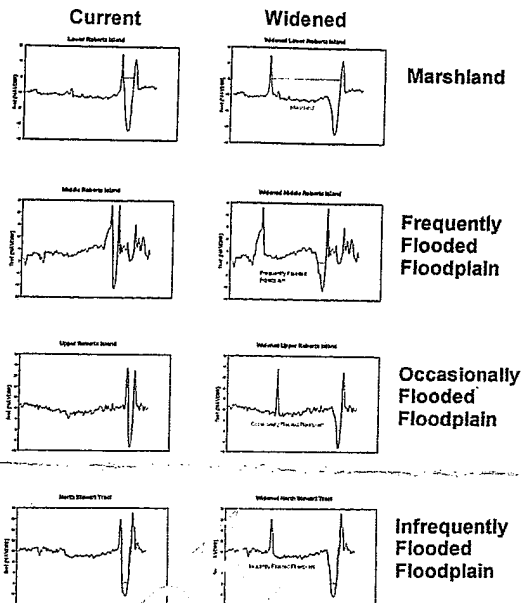
- The river has exceeded the flood stage ten times (once every 8.34 years on average).
- The river exceeds moderate flood stage every 16.8 years on average, or 5 times.
- Stewart Tract has breached and flooded 3 times, on average every 28 years, easing strain on other levees and protecting vulnerable neighborhoods

Project Impacts	
Effects on Residential Use	<15 dwellings relocated
Potential parkland created	7,040 acres
Effects on Agriculture	
More Frequent Flooding	3,520 acres
Permanent Loss	3,520 acres
Increased Flood Protection	30,235 acres
Effects on Infrastructure	
Permanently flooded oil or gas wells	6-10 in tidal marsh floodplain
Occasionally flooded oil or gas wells	5-10 in upland floodplain
Oil or gas wells with increased flood protection	170-175
Miles of road or railway subject to increased flood risk	none
Effects on Land Value	
Increased	30,235 acres
Decreased	7,040 acres
Land available for residential development	4,500 acres
Effects on Habitat and Sensitive Species	
Total potential new floodplain	7,040 acres (total floodplain)
Potential land for managed wetland or tidal marsh	3,520 acres
Project Cost	\$1.2B

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**URS**

26815935  
Delta Risk Management Strategy (DRMS)  
Phase 2

BUILDING BLOCK 1.8: SAN JOAQUIN BYPASS (ALTERNATIVE 2)